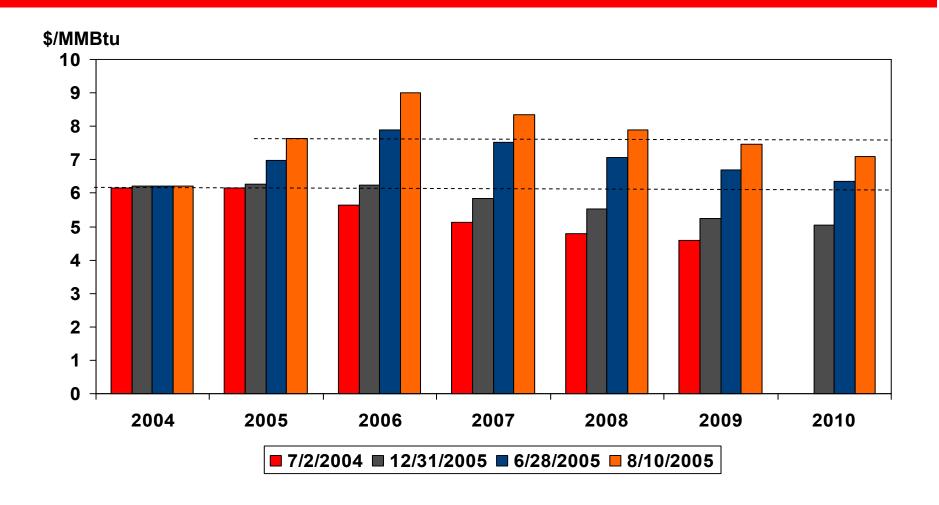


# Energy Price Issues Living with the "Princess" Rules

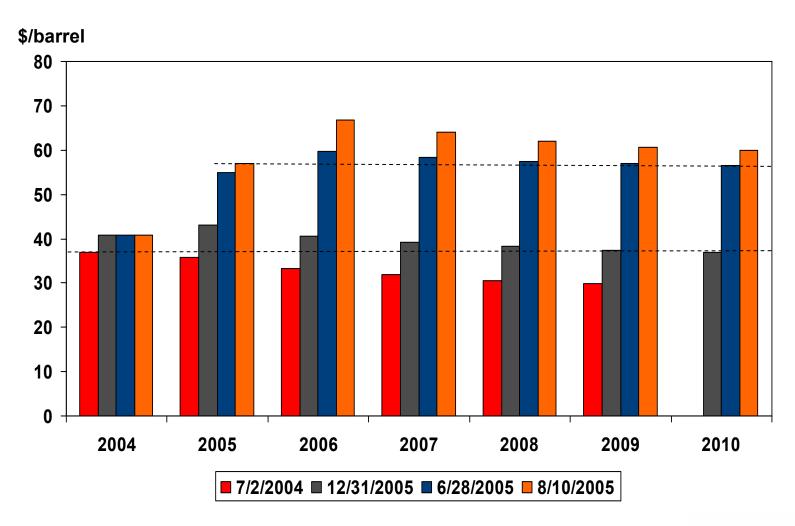
Thomas J. Woods
Senior Consultant, Platts Analytics & Forecasting
Energy 2005
Long Beach, California
August 16, 2005

## Annual NYMEX Henry Hub Futures



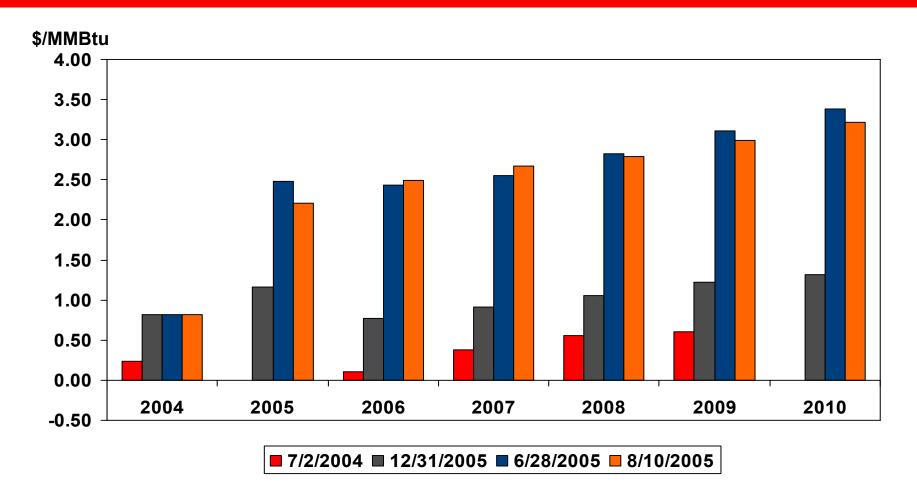


# Annual NYMEX Light Oil Futures



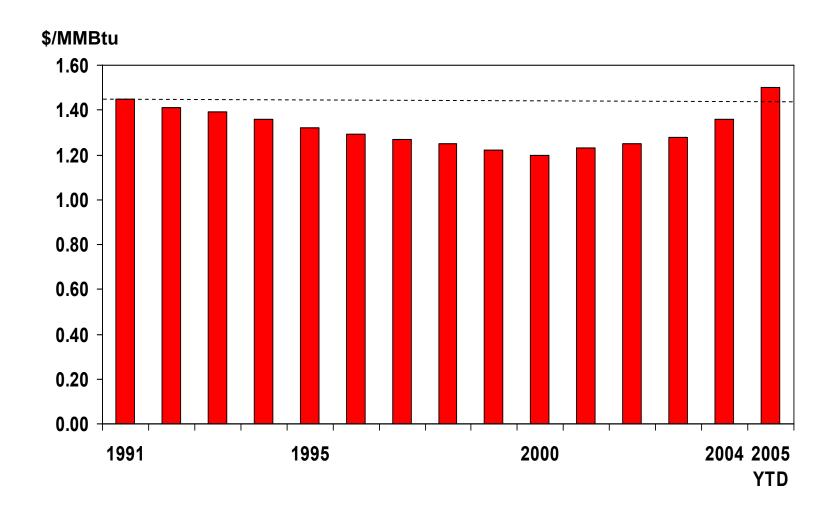


### Light Oil – Henry Hub Differentials Annual NYMEX Futures



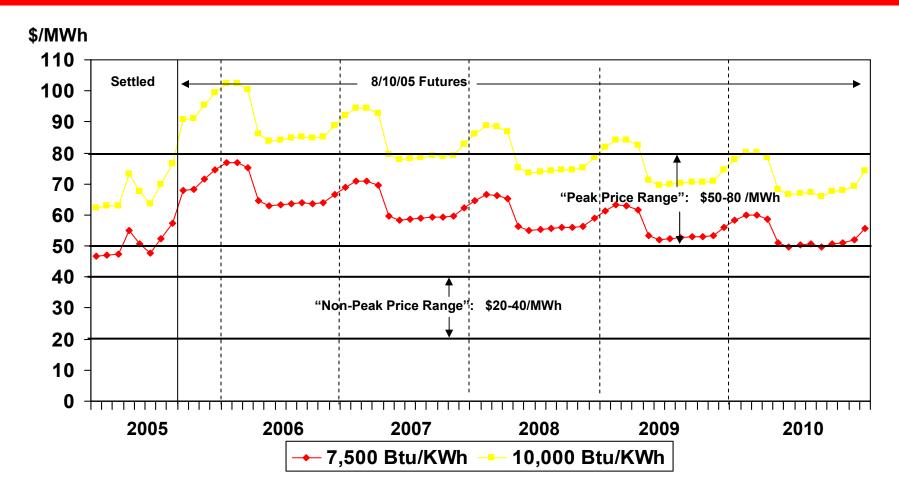


### Average U.S. Coal Prices to Generators





# Gas - Fuel Electricity Costs (NYMEX Gas Futures as of 8/10/05)



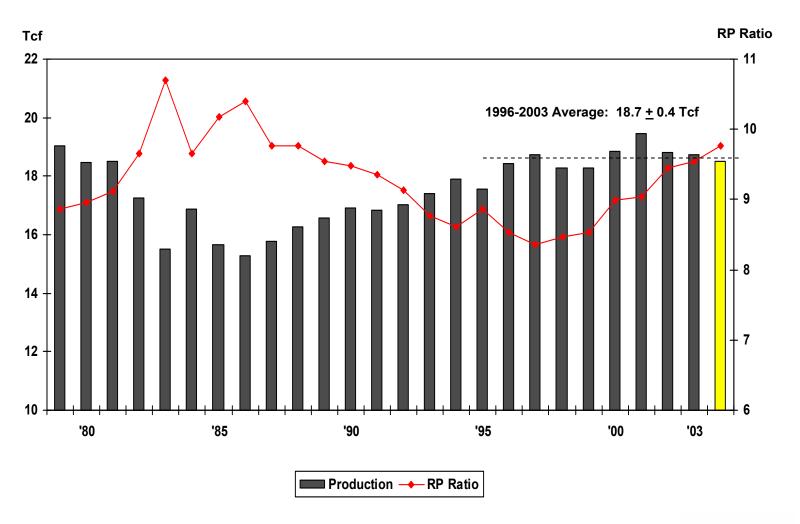


#### **ENERGY PRICE CONTEXT**

- Strengthening Market Expectations for Higher Long-Term Oil and Gas Prices
  - Gas Prices above \$7/MMBtu
  - Oil Prices near or above \$60/barrel
- Coal Prices Beginning to Grow
- Gas Prices Unlikely to Decline as Rapidly as Oil Prices
- Strong Upward Pressures Developing on Electricity Prices
- Sustained, Large Declines in Prices Unlikely until Sustained Easing of Supply/Demand Balance and Growing Supply

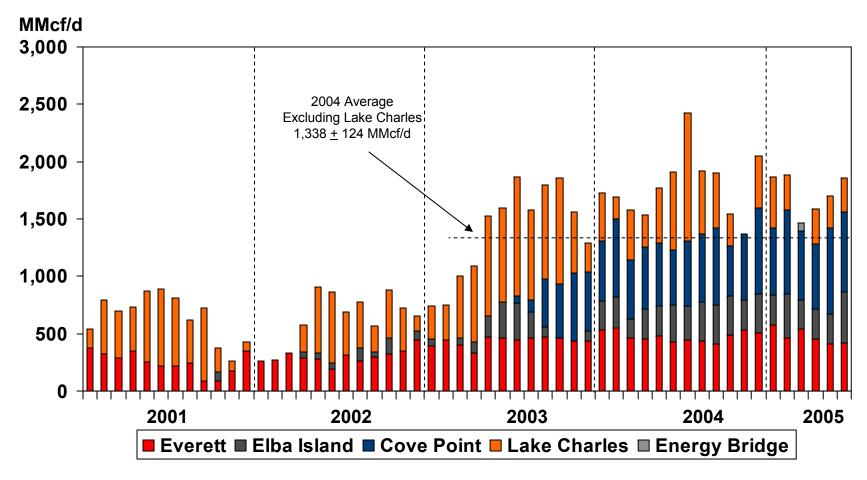


### Lower-48 Gas Production





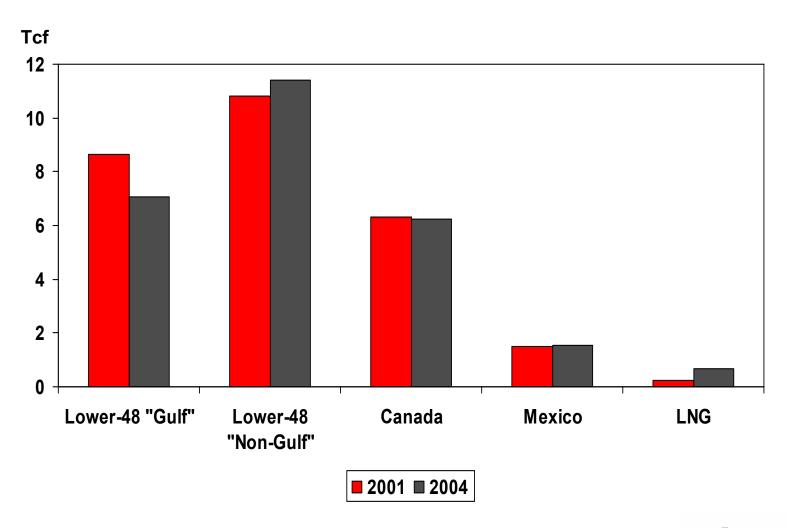
## U.S. LNG Imports



Source: DOE FE

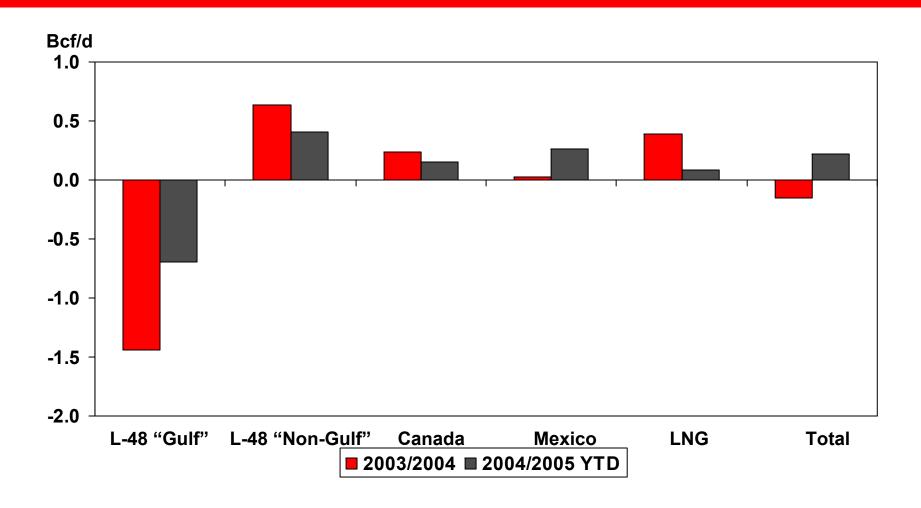


# Changes in North American Gas Supply 2001-2004



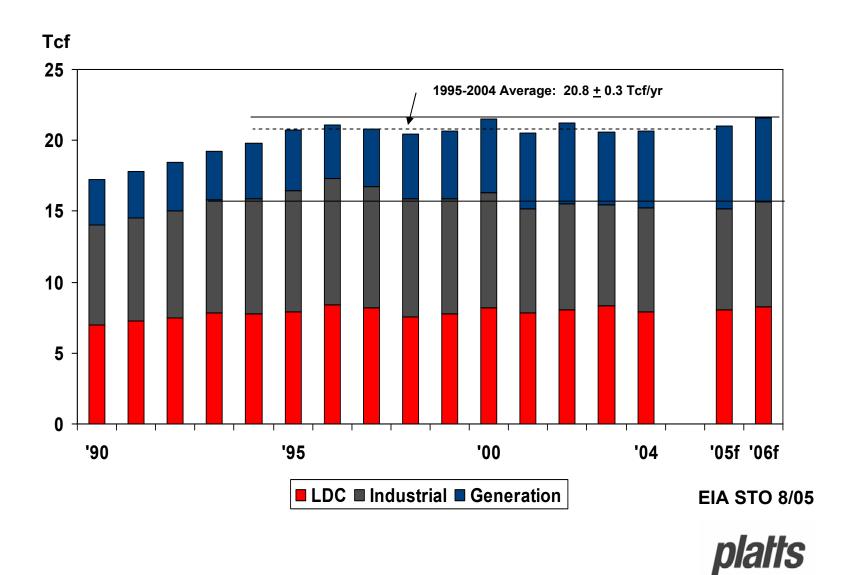


### Changes in North American Gas Supply

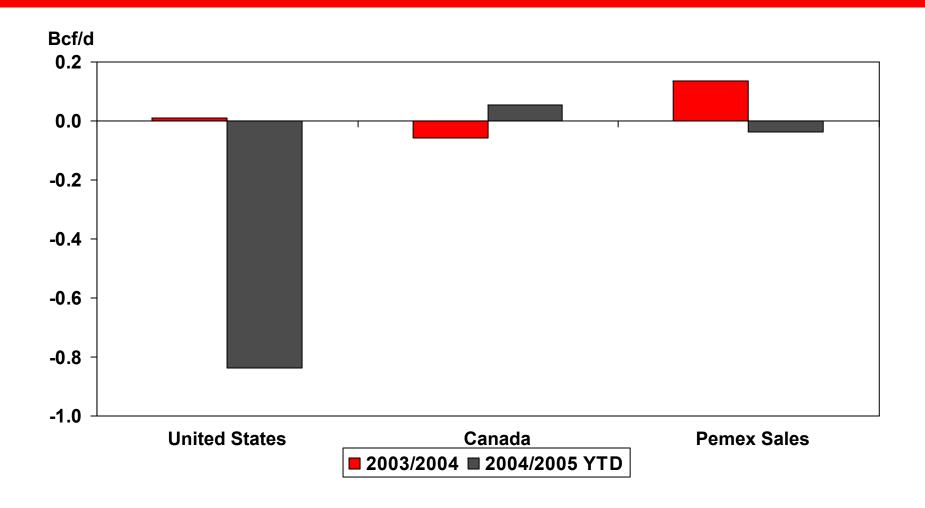




### U.S. Gas Sales



### Change in North American Gas Sales



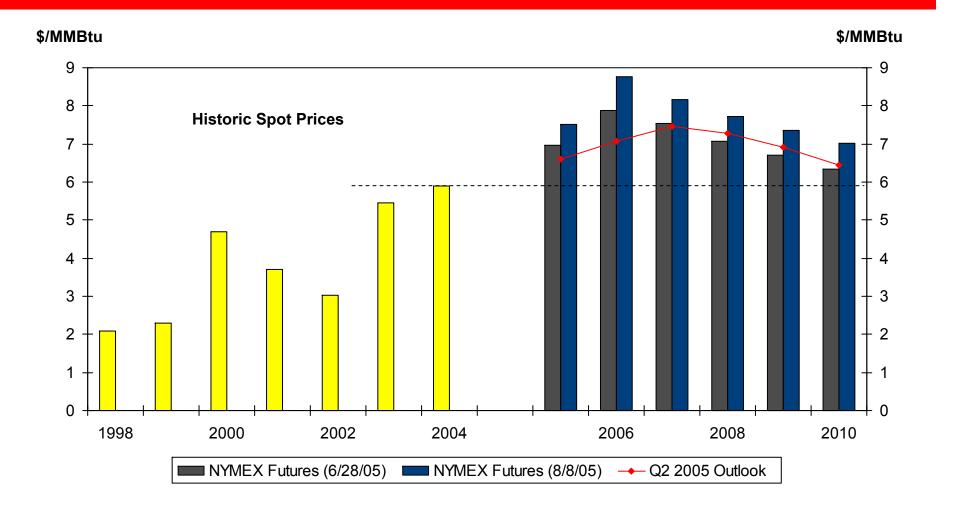


#### GAS MARKET CONTEXT

- North American Gas Supply/Demand Balance Possibly Easing
- Improving Supply Prospects due to Growing LNG Imports and Reserves Inventory
- Near-Term Gas Sales Growth Limited, but Market Expectations Different
- Until Gulf Coast Gas Producers Become Price Takers, not Price Setters, Upward Pressures on Gas Prices Unlikely to Ease
- Critical Challenges
  - Surviving Near-Term without Compromising Long-Term
  - Identifying Better Times to Buy Gas and/or Electricity



## Average Annual Henry Hub Prices





### FUTURE MARKET FACTORS

- Some Intermittent Downward Pressures on Near-Term Gas Prices Possible, but...
- Possible Jump in Electricity Prices for Some Regions
- Electricity Possible Option to Alleviate Rising Energy Bills in Some Regions
- Critical Need for Lower Prices

**Increasing Supply at Lower Prices** 





# Market Cannot Change "Princess" It Can Only Ignore "Her"

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